

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 DPW-01 /073 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3507

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8253

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS TALKS

REF: SEOUL 7492

1. CHONG CHU-NYON, SPOKESMAN FOR THE KOREAN NATIONAL RED CROSS (KNRC), INFORMED EMBOFF THAT 13TH WORKING-LEVEL MEETING OF THE SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS WAS HELD OCTOBER 23 AT PANMUNJOM.

2. CHONG SAID THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT NEW DEVELOPMENT AT MEETING. ACCORDING TO CHONG, KNRC ONCE AGAIN URGED ITS NORTH KOREAN COUNTERPART TO AGREE TO ITS EARLIER PROPOSAL TO ALLOW BOTH SIDES TO VISIT THEIR ANCESTRAL GRAVES ON CHUSOK (THE HARVEST MOON FESTIVAL ON THE 15TH AUGUST BY THE LUNAR CALENDAR) AND ON NEW YEAR'S DAY. KNRC ALSO AGAIN URGED NZZHAJIWISHMENT "MEETING PLTCE" AND POSTAL EXCHANGE CENTER AT PANMUNJOM AS A PILOT PROJECT FOR AGED PARENTS AND RELEASE ROK CITIZENS CURRENTLY DETAINED IN THE NORTH AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

3. CHONG STATED THAT THE NORTH SIDE TOTALLY IGNORED THE KNRC'S PROPOSALS. INSTEAD, THEY CRITICIZED ROK'S INTERNAL

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AFFAIRS, AND MAINTAINED THAT SOUTH-NORTH RED CROSS SOCIETIES

SHOULD PLAY LEADING ROLE IN PUSHING U.S. TROOPS OUT OF KOREA.

4. CHONG SAID THAT THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO HOLD THE 14TH WORKING-LEVEL MEETING NOVEMBER 28 AT PANMUNJOM.
SNEIDER

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NNN

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